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General Assembly

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Letter dated 5 December 2003 from the Secretary-General to the President of the General Assembly

1. At present 12 Member States are in arrears under the terms of Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations, which states as follows:

> "A Member of the United Nations which is in arrears in the payment of its financial contributions to the Organization shall have no vote in the General Assembly if the amount of its arrears equals or exceeds the amount of the contributions due from it for the preceding two full years. The General Assembly may, nevertheless, permit such a Member to vote if it is satisfied that the failure to pay is due to conditions beyond the control of the Member."

2. The minimum payments necessary to reduce the amounts owed by those Member States on their contributions so that they remain below the gross amount assessed for the preceding two full years (2001 and 2002) are as follows:

Member State	*Minimum payment (United States dollars)*
Burundi	21 722.00[a]
Central African Republic	307 662.00[a]
Comoros	731 766.00[a]
Georgia	6 782 041.00[a]
Guinea-Bissau	446 966.00[a]
Iraq	12 547 137.00
Liberia	1 097 164.00
Niger	352 750.00[a]
Republic of Moldova	1 935 974.00[a]
Sao Tome and Principe	550 171.00[a]
Somalia	978 471.00[a]
Tajikistan	1 461 361.00[a]

[a] In its resolution 58/1 of 16 October 2003, the General Assembly decided that Burundi, Central African Republic, Comoros, Georgia, Guinea-Bissau, Niger, Republic of Moldova, Sao Tome and Principe, Somalia and Tajikistan should be permitted to vote in the Assembly until 30 June 2004.

(*Signed*) Kofi **Annan**
Secretary-General

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